

Serial No.: 09/872,698; Filed: June 1, 2001
Group Art Unit: 3763, Docket: P-3226.04

6. 69. (New) The method according to claim 45 wherein the step of adjusting the length of the second tubular portion extending from the first tubular portion lumen to conform to the dimensions of a selected site in a hippocampus or lateral ventricle includes:

determining a desired configuration of catheter by reference to an individual patient.

7. 70. (New) The method of claim 69 further comprising the step of implanting the catheter in the patient.

8. 71. (New) The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of implanting the catheter in the patient.

9. 72. (New) A method of delivering an anti-inflammatory agent having cyclooxygenase inhibitor action to a selected site within a hippocampus or lateral ventricle comprising steps of: providing a catheter having a first tubular portion that has a first tubular portion lumen and a second tubular portion partially disposed within the first tubular portion lumen, wherein the step of providing a catheter having a first tubular portion that has a first tubular portion lumen includes the step of:

making the first tubular portion of a material that increases in diameter when heated;

adjusting the length of the second tubular portion extending from the first tubular portion lumen to conform to the dimensions of a selected site in a hippocampus or lateral ventricle, wherein the step of adjusting the length of the second tubular portion includes the steps of:

heating the first tubular portion until the diameter of the first tubular portion lumen increases in diameter a sufficient amount to enable relative sliding movement between the first tubular portion and the second tubular portion; sliding the second tubular portion in the first tubular portion lumen relative to the first tubular portion to provide a preselected length of the second tubular portion extending beyond the end of the first tubular portion; and

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cooling the first tubular portion until the first tubular portion and the second tubular portion are no longer capable of relative sliding movement; placing the catheter in the hippocampus or lateral ventricle so that the second tubular portion is placed at the selected site in the hippocampus or lateral ventricle; providing a source of the anti-inflammatory agent; coupling the catheter and the source of the anti-inflammatory agent to a pump for delivering the anti-inflammatory agent from the source of the anti-inflammatory agent to the hippocampus through the catheter; and actuating the pump to delivery the the anti-inflammatory agent to the hippocampus or lateral ventricle.

D-73. (New) The method of claim 72 wherein anti-inflammatory agent is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

11. 74. (New) A method of delivering an anti-inflammatory agent having cyclooxygenase inhibitor action to a selected site within a hippocampus or lateral ventricle comprising steps of:

providing a catheter having a first tubular portion that has a first tubular portion lumen and a second tubular portion partially disposed within the first tubular portion lumen, wherein the step of providing a catheter having a first tubular portion that has a first tubular portion lumen includes the step of:

making the first tubular portion of a material that increases in diameter when exposed to a solvent;

adjusting the length of the second tubular portion extending from the first tubular portion lumen to conform to the dimensions of a selected site in a hippocampus or lateral ventricle, wherein the step of adjusting the length of the second tubular portion includes the steps of:

exposing the first tubular portion to a solvent that increases the diameter of the first tubular portion lumen a sufficient amount to permit relative sliding movement of the second tubular portion in the first tubular portion lumen;

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sliding the second tubular portion in the first tubular portion lumen to obtain a preselected length of the second tubular portion extending distally beyond the distal end of the first tubular portion; and ceasing to expose the first tubular portion to the solvent whereby the diameter of the first tubular portion lumen decreases until relative sliding movement between the first tubular portion and the second tubular portion is prevented; placing the catheter in the hippocampus or lateral ventricle so that the second tubular portion is placed at the selected site in the hippocampus or lateral ventricle; providing a source of the anti-inflammatory agent; coupling the catheter and the source of the anti-inflammatory agent to a pump for delivering the anti-inflammatory agent from the source of the anti-inflammatory agent to the hippocampus through the catheter; and actuating the pump to delivery the the anti-inflammatory agent to the hippocampus or lateral ventricle.

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2. 75. (New) The method of claim 74 wherein anti-inflammatory agent is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.